

The Environmental Council of States (ECOS)
September 15 - 17, 2014
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Issue: **San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site, Harris County, Texas**

Background/Status: The Site includes of a set of impoundments built in the mid-1960s for disposal of paper mill pulp wastes containing dioxin. In 2008 the Site was added to the National Priorities List (NPL) and in 2009 EPA issued a Unilateral Administrative Order to International Paper Company and McGinnes Industrial Maintenance Corporation, the Potentially Responsible Parties for the Site, to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study. A Superfund time-critical removal action was completed in July of 2011 to place an armor rock cap to prevent the further release of dioxins into the environment.

Message:

- The EPA has asked the U.S. Corps of Engineers to perform an independent review of the Site. The Record of Decision, which selects the Site remedy, is expected in fiscal year 2015. The community believes that the contaminated material should be removed from the San Jacinto River.
- The EPA co-leads a Site Community Advisory Committee, including the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Harris County, the Port of Houston, Houston Galveston Area Council, the Galveston Bay Foundation, and the Potentially Responsible Parties.

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